IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

1-5. (Canceled).

6. (New) An input control apparatus comprising:

a bit number reduction section that discards bits in a last half of a systematic part and bits in last halves of parity parts comprising a plurality of sequences, the systematic part and the parity parts being received as input in a turbo decoder; and

a control section that controls the bit number reduction section so that the number of bits in one sequence of the parity parts after the discarding is less than the number of bits in the systematic part after the discarding.

7. (New) The input control apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the control section controls the bit number reduction section so that the number of bits in the parity parts is determined in accordance with a coding rate and/or coding block length of a bit sequence received as input in the turbo decoder.

8. (New) The input control apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the control section controls the bit number reduction section so that the number of bits in the parity parts decreases

as the coding rate of the bit sequence received as input in the turbo decoder decreases and the number of bits in the parity parts increases as the coding rate increases.

9. (New) The input control apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the control section controls the bit number reduction section so that the number of bits in the parity parts decreases as the coding block length received as input in the turbo decoder increases and the number of bits in the parity parts increases as the coding block length decreases.

10. (New) An input control method comprising the steps of:

discarding bits in a last half of a systematic part and bits in last halves of parity parts comprising a plurality of sequences, the systematic part and the parity parts being received as input in a turbo decoder; and

controlling the number of bits to discard so that the number of bits in one sequence of the parity parts after the discarding is less than the number of bits in the systematic part after the discarding.